Power in year 2005-06 to intervene in the matter of supply of natural gas by Reliance Industries Ltd. to NTPC's Kawas and Gandhar Plants;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether his Ministry had responded to the Ministry of power citing that Government is not a party to the Gas Sales Agreement (GSA) and seller and buyer are free to agree upon term and conditions of GSA including all commercial terms; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) It may be stated that provisions of Production Sharing Contract (PSC) do not normally provide for the Government to determine the outcome of commercial transaction between buyer and seller. However, a plaint has been field by NTPC against RIL before the Hon'ble High Court of Judicature, Bombay and the matter is subjudice.

Gas exploration by RIL

3071. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reliance Industries Ltd. (RIL) has explored the gas in an exploration of acreage of the Andhra Coast, a region in which the company made the biggest gas find to 2002.

(b) if so, whether in 2002 the company had found the world's biggest gas reserve from that year;

(c) whether the RIL also strike gas and oil in the Cauvery basin and Gujarat; and

(d) if so, what is the total gas and oil that would be obtained from Andhra Coast?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir M/S RIL has made 25 discoveries of Hydrocarbons so far in the Krishna Godavari-Basin. Out of these, two discoveries namely Dhirubhai 1 and 3 have been estimated to be amongst the biggest gas discoveries of the world for the year 2002.

(c) M/S RIL has made one discoovery namely Dhirubhai-35 in block CY-DWN-2001/2 in Cauvey basin deep water offshore area and two gas discoveries namely Dhirubhai 27 and Dhirubhai 33 in the block SR-OS-94/1 and GS-OSN-2000/1 respectively in Gujarat Saurashtra shallow water offshore area.

(d) Natural Gas production of about 40 Million metric standard cubic metres per day (MMSCMD) is likely to commence by 3rd quarter of 2008 with peak production of up to 80 MMSCMD by 2011, from D-1 and D-3 discoveries in block KG-DWN-98/3. Other discoveries are at different stages of delineation and appraisal.